

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 and 49, as shown below. The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings.

1. (Currently amended) A targeted therapeutic delivery system for the controlled delivery of a therapeutic compound to a region of a patient comprising, in combination with a therapeutic compound, stabilized lipid microspheres including:

(a) a drug-free outer lipid layer ~~comprising a lipid, the outer layer~~ having a first surface and a second surface; and

(b) a gas-free inner oil layer ~~comprising an oil, the inner layer being~~ disposed over the first surface of the outer layer,

wherein the inner layer defines void, the void containing a gas or gaseous precursor, wherein said lipid comprises at least one phosphatidic acid and the therapeutic compound is dispersed within the oil ~~inner layer~~.

2-46. (Canceled).

47. (Previously presented) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 1 wherein said gas or gaseous precursor is selected from the group consisting of fluorine, perfluorocarbons, sulfurhexafluoride, and perfluoroethers.

48. (Canceled).

49. (Currently amended) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 1 wherein said lipid ~~further~~ comprises at least one phosphatidylcholine, and at least one phosphatidylethanolamine.

50. (Previously presented) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 49 wherein said phosphatidylcholine is selected from the group consisting of dioleoylphosphatidylcholine, dimyristoylphosphatidylcholine, dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine and distearoyl-phosphatidylcholine; said phosphatidylethanolamine is selected from the group consisting of dipalmitoylphosphatidylethanolamine, dipalmitoylphosphatidylethanolamine-PEG 5,000, dioleoyl-phosphatidylethanolamine, and N-succinyl- dioleoyl-phosphatidylethanolamine; and said phosphatidic acid is dipalmitoylphosphatidic acid.

51. (Previously presented) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 1 wherein said oil is selected from the group consisting of silicone oil, cod liver oil, mineral oil, plant oil, oil comprising fluorinated triglycerides, biocompatible saturated fatty acids, biocompatible unsaturated fatty acids, biocompatible partially hydrogenated fatty acids, silicon-based oils, and synthetic oils.

52-54. (Canceled).

55. (Previously presented) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 51 wherein said synthetic oil is selected from the group consisting of triolein, trimyristin, triacetin, tripalmitin, tristearin, tributyrin, glyceryl mono-octanoate, and glyceryl monostearate.

56-59. (Canceled).